



The Parishes of Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale and Christ the King, Kingstanding



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Hymns: E: 413; O: 410; C: 365; R: 122.

Psalm 62(63):2-6,8-9

R: For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.

MASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS

Sat 02/09/23	Feast of Blessed Dominic Barberi	10:00 Mon.	Jim Ranahan (RIP)
	22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Rose Lewsley (RIP)
18:00 OLAM		Yvonne Cowman	
10:00 CTK†		Maura Green (RIP)	
11:30 OLAM		Edward Smolinski (RIP)	
Mon 04/09/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	De La Salle brothers
Tue 05/09/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.x	Fr. Jerzy & sister Roza
		12:00 CTK	Doreen Hay & Family
Wed 06/09/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	Liz Cawthron (Get Well)
		09:30 Mon.x	Janina & Krystyna
Thu 07/09/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.†	Richard
		12:00 CTK	Ann Walker (RIP)
Fri 08/09/23	Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	09:00 CTK	PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
		09:30 Mon.x	Jim Ranahan (RIP)
		11:00 CTK	Funeral Service: Kieran Gary Peach
Sat 09/09/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	10:00 Mon.	Caroline Hughes
	23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Anthony & Karen Ball
18:00 OLAM†		Kitty Heaney	
10:00 CTK		Margaret Ngina (RIP)	
11:30 OLAM		Alun Richards (Get Well)	

Bible Study with Deacon Dominic Fahey in the Guild Room at Christ The King **every Tuesday** at 7:00pm.

Rosary Group: meeting **every Wednesday** in Christ the King Church at 1:30pm.

The Childrens Liturgy will start again at 10.00 Mass on Sun 10th Sep. We look forward to welcoming the Children back after their Summer Break.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Ron & Monique Hunt, Jean McCabe, Luke Byrne, Muriel Cowan, Paul Cowan, John & Sandra Mageean, Gerald, Sarah McCallion, Audrey Vickers, John, Sadie Pulido, Mary McGee, Sr Marie, Claire & Mark, Jo Teece, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O' Reilly, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Alberto Bolongaro, Kyle Billing, Nicola Jones, Daniel Kelly, Patricia Nash, Arjun Paul, Teresa Webb, Angela Madigan, Carol Timmis, Elizabeth Teague, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Joan and Alan Horton, Yvonne Cowman and Fr Michael Ho. Please pray for them and their families.

RIP: Please pray for Kieran Peach, Maurice O'Shea, Lily McDonald, David Cotton, Nancy Conlon all of whom passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

Funerals: Kieran Peach: Fri 08/09/23, CTK, 11:00; Maurice O'Shea: Tue 12/09/23, OLAM, 11:00; David Cotton: Tue 19/09/23, OLAM, 11:15; Lily McDonald: Wed 20/09/23, Streetly Crem., 12:30; Nancy Conlon: Wed 27/09/23, CTK, 11:00.

Baptism Preparation: The next meeting is to be held at Christ the King Church on Sunday 3rd Sept at 3:00pm.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP, which burns to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar, is **dedicated throughout September for members of the Holder family**, both living and deceased.

There is a 2nd Collection This Weekend for the Catholic Education Service

Due to the Bank Holiday, last week's donations cannot be reported until next week.

Christ the King		2nd/3rd Sept	9th/10th Sept
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Kathleen Foxall	Kathleen Foxall
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue Nugent	Theresa Wilkin
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Theresa	Patience/Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Mariane	Sr Michale

RCIA Programme - for those who would like to discern the Catholic faith in order to become Catholic - will start on Thurs 14/09/23 at 19:00 in the Guild Room behind the church of Christ the King.

Confirmation Preparation for young people who go to non-Catholic Schools will start on Fri 15/09/23 at 17:00 in the Guild Room.

Cursillo Events: Stafford and Walsall: This September, there is an opportunity to learn more about Cursillo – for “an encounter with God, others and self” – and to hear talks and testimonies from Catholics like you in our Archdiocese, who are taking the lead in renewing this apostolate in Birmingham. There is an evening event at St Austin's Church, Stafford on Thursday 7 September 7-9 pm and a daytime event at St Mary the Mount Parish Centre, Walsall from 10.45 am to 2.30 pm on Saturday 16 September. Please contact Paul Northam in the Diocesan Office for Mission if you'd like to know more: paul.northam@rcaob.org.uk

Free Online Workshop - Imprisonment: Pact (Prison Advice & Care Trust) invites you to join them at a free online JustPeople Workshop on Fri 15/09/23 OR Wed 25/10/23, 9am – 1pm. Discern the Lord's call to social justice as we join together to promote the Common Good in our communities, reflecting upon Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching through the lens of people affected by imprisonment. All are welcome. A participant pack will be posted out ahead of the event.

LOUDfence Ribbon Workshop: Sat 09/09/23 at St Chad's Cathedral: Join talented fibre artist Mahawa Keita for a special day of creativity - responding to recent LOUDfence initiatives at St Chad's Cathedral and Birmingham Cathedral St Philip's: Mahawa will be using special ribbons; which were originally dedicated and placed on the railings at both cathedrals, as a sign of solidarity with those who have suffered abuse; to create a memorable piece of art. LOUDfence is a survivor-led initiative, which encourages people to tie brightly coloured ribbons and messages in public spaces. Booking can be done on <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/loudfence-ribbon-workshop>

GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR DONAGH O'SHEA: The word 'suffer' comes from two Latin words, 'sub' (under) and 'ferre' (to bear). There's a sense of supporting something from underneath. It is an active vigorous word. It lets you imagine some human being who has taken up his or her burden of pain and is bravely carrying it along. There are related words that seem to look at the matter from a different side – *from the outside*. The Latin origins of these words tell the story: 'depression' ('to weigh down'), 'grief' (from 'gravis' meaning 'heavy'), 'affliction' ('to be struck down'). These words seem to look at human life, not from the point of view of the sufferer, but from the point of view of the burdens that bear down on us. They suggest weakness and defeat on the part of the sufferer.

If it were only about words, how easy it would be! But, it is about us. We have two ways of living with suffering: we can take it on our shoulders and try to walk with it; or we can just sit down under it and feel like victims. No-one pretends that either way is easy. If it were easy, it wouldn't be suffering.

Our instinct is to run away from suffering, and when we can't escape from it, to treat it as an enemy that has defeated us; then we are in danger of giving way to complaining and self-pity. This is the harder way in the end: harder for ourselves and for everyone around us. The wisdom of the Gospel tells us to face our suffering, not to treat it like an enemy but like a friend, to learn from it, to let it draw us away from self-centred thoughts and feelings, and ultimately to see it as a sharing in the Passion of Christ.

There's a striking phrase in John's Gospel, "You will have sorrow, but your sorrow *will turn into joy*" (16:20). He did not say "Your sorrow will be replaced by joy." Your joy will somehow be born out of the heart of your sorrow. Then it will be able to endure; it will not see sorrow as a threat and an enemy. It will not be at the mercy of sorrowful circumstances. Sorrow itself will give birth to a strange deep kind of joy. A great meditation teacher was weeping at the death of her daughter. Someone expressed surprise that such a person would weep. "Yes, I weep," she said, "but every tear is a jewel". Her suffering was real suffering, yet it did not lead her into desolation, but into greater depth.

"The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long", said Jeremiah (today's first reading). For Jesus, it meant crucifixion. But neither of them turned back, neither of them was silenced. Jeremiah said, "There seemed to be a fire burning in my heart". Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth" (Luke 12:49). It was that inner urgency that drove them forward in the teeth of great suffering. It was inner, but it was also a call from beyond. We are inclined to see these as opposites. How could it be both? In experience, that is just how it is. There is a clear expression of it in the *Confessions* of St Patrick (another man who suffered for the word of God). "I saw God praying within me, and I was, as it were, inside my own body, and I heard Him above me - that is, above my inner self".

Jesus did not turn back from death; he went through the heart of it, and it was transformed into resurrection. "Your Son the royal path of suffering trod," says the hymn. Our faith does not hold us back from life or life's sorrows, but it enables them to be a royal path to God.